quadrupling of Tiruvallur-Arakkonam section taking into account the latest ground situation. Inclusion of the Project in the Railway Plan will depend upon the financial viability of project, availability of funds and clearance by the Planning Commission. At present approximately 80 pairs of trains ply in Arakkonam-Tiruvallur section and 90 pairs of trains in Tiruvallur-Chennai section. Average punctuality of suburban trains during the last three months in the section has been 96.47% which is comparable with the condition obtaining in other sections.

Appointment of Employees in Railway Canteens

1010. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class III employees appointed directly or otherwise, through any service Comission/Board in 1984, in various Northern Railway canteens under Parliament House Complex, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that Post Graduate/Graduate employees appointed before 1984 as Khalasis in those canteens are still working as class III employees; and

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Three persons were appointed in this category in 1984 in Parliament House complex catering units.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pending projects of South Central Railway

1011. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Railway Projects of South Central Railway are pending;

(b) whether Government propose to increase allocation of funds for expediting the projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The Railway Projects in South Central Railway which are included in the budget and on which physical work has not yet started are:

1. Kakinada-Kotipalli Restoration New Line.
2. Kakinada-Pithapuram New Line
3. Dharmavaram-Pakala Gauge Conversion.

Allocation for these projects are proposed to be increased as per details given below:—

S. No.	Projects	Allocation for 1999-2000	Allocation proposed for 2000-2001
1.	Kakinada-Kotipalli New Line	Rs. 10,000	Rs. 1,00,00,000
2.	Kakinada-Pithapuram New Line	Rs. 10,000	Rs. 10,00,000
3.	Dharmavaram-Pakala Gauge Conversion	Rs. 1,000	Rs. 10,00,000

However, the work on these projects can be started only after obtaining the requisite clearances, for which action has already been initiated.

Construction of Lumding-Silchar BG Line

1012. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the latest position of laying B.G. Rail Line between Lumding and Silchar; and

(b) by when it is targeted to be completed?